



# **SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**

## **PARTICULATE ADVISORY – FIREWORKS**

**Valid Monday July 04, 2022 through Tuesday July 05, 2022**

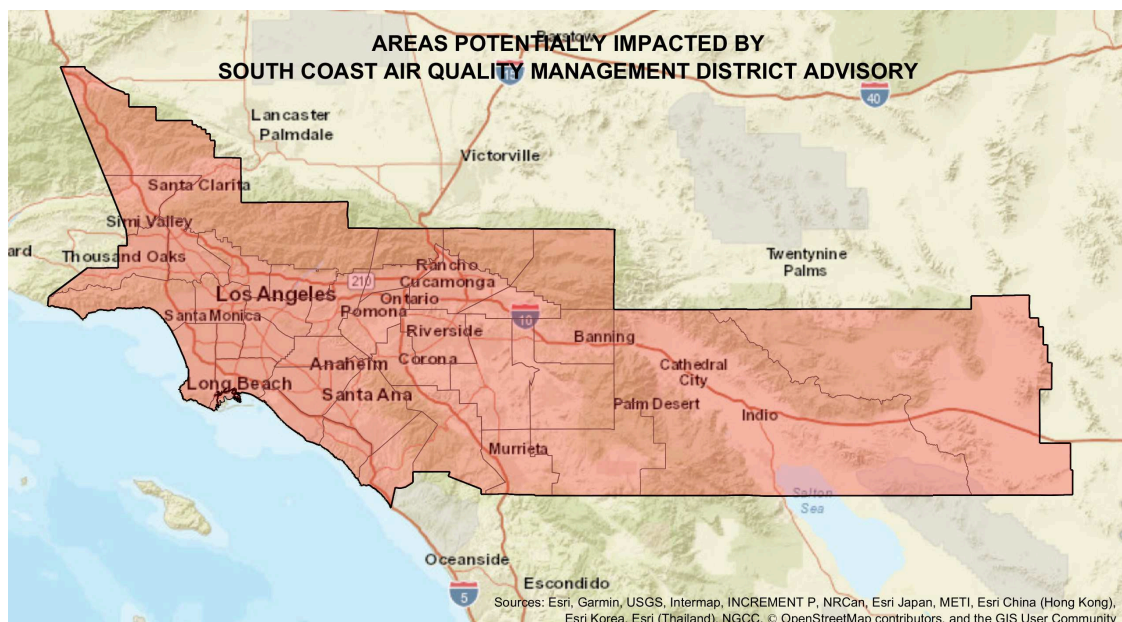
*This advisory is in effect through Tuesday Afternoon. South Coast AQMD will issue an update if additional information becomes available.*

Poor air quality is likely in areas throughout the South Coast Air Basin and in the Coachella Valley on July 4th through July 5th. Fireworks are known to emit high levels of particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>) as well as metal air pollutants, all of which can contribute to negative health effects. Due to fireworks related to Independence Day celebrations, the Air Quality Index (AQI) may reach the **Very Unhealthy** AQI category or higher from the evening of Monday, July 4th through the early afternoon on Tuesday, July 5th. The use of personal “backyard” fireworks may lead to localized fine particulate matter concentrations above observed regional levels. Light winds are expected in the basin after dusk, increasing pollutant build-up.

Fine particulate matter levels on July 4th and July 5th are typically among the worst (highest) days of the year in the South Coast Air Basin. The smoke and combustion products from fireworks add to the fine particles already present in the Basin that are primarily caused by motor vehicles, as well as fugitive dust and industrial emissions. The use of consumer grade “backyard” fireworks can also spark wildfires, which can be a major source of fine particulate matter.

Breathing of fine particulate matter can lead to a wide variety of cardiovascular and respiratory health effects such as heart attacks, asthma aggravation, decreased lung function, coughing, or difficulty breathing and may lead to premature death in people with heart or lung disease.

Areas of direct impacts may include major portions of the South Coast Air Basin and the Coachella Valley. Air pollution levels are typically worse in areas with widespread consumer grade fireworks use. To avoid increasing PM<sub>2.5</sub> levels even further, South Coast AQMD recommends that the public avoid burning wood during periods of poor air quality



South Coast AQMD Advisory updates can be found at the following link: <http://www.aqmd.gov/advisory>

To subscribe to air quality alerts, advisories and forecasts by email, go to <http://AirAlerts.org>

To view current air quality conditions by region in an interactive map, see <http://www.aqmd.gov/aqimap>

For real-time air quality information, maps, notifications and health alerts in your area, download our award-winning South Coast AQMD app at: <http://www.aqmd.gov/mobileapp>

Air quality forecasts are available at <http://www.aqmd.gov/forecast>

For a map of South Coast AQMD Forecast Areas, see <http://www.aqmd.gov/ForecastAreas>

## What To Do When Air Pollution Reaches Unhealthful Levels:

**Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups:** Air Quality Index (AQI) is 101 - 150. Although the general public is not likely to be affected at this AQI range, people with heart or lung disease, older adults and children are at a greater risk from exposure to air pollution. People with heart or lung disease, older adults, and children should reduce prolonged or heavy exertion.

**Unhealthy:** AQI is 151 - 200. Everyone may begin to experience some adverse health effects, and members of the sensitive groups may experience more serious effects. People with heart or lung disease, older adults, and children should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion. Everyone else should reduce prolonged or heavy exertion.

**Very Unhealthy:** AQI is 201 - 300. Everyone may experience more serious health effects. People with heart or lung disease, older adults, and children should avoid all physical activity outdoors. Everyone else should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion.